



NEWS RELEASE

Date: February 16, 2018
District: 7 - Los Angeles and Ventura counties
Contact: Michael.Comeaux@dot.ca.gov
Phone: (213) 897-9372

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Caltrans to Activate Ramp Metering on U.S. Highway 101 at Lewis Road in Camarillo

On-Ramp Signals Will Smooth Freeway Traffic Flow

CAMARILLO — The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) today announced plans to activate ramp metering to regulate traffic entering northbound and southbound U.S. Highway 101 (the Ventura Freeway) at Lewis Road in the city of Camarillo.

Since ramp metering was introduced in California 51 years ago, it has proved effective in smoothing the flow of freeway traffic by reducing chokepoints where vehicles enter. As a result, ramp metering improves the overall travel time of motorists on the freeway, increases safety by reducing congestion-related accidents and reduces air pollution from vehicle emissions.

The new signals installed by Caltrans at the Lewis Road on-ramps will allow two cars per green signal per lane on the northbound side and three cars per green signal per lane on the southbound side.

The northbound and southbound on-ramps each have two lanes. At both ramps, the timing will be staggered to allow one lane at a time to enter the freeway.

Caltrans plans to activate the metering system by early March. For the first two weeks, it will display a constant green signal to help drivers become familiar with the presence of the meters.

By approximately mid to late March the system will become fully operational, displaying red and green signals to control on-ramp traffic. Signal timing will be based partly on freeway traffic conditions as determined by nearby sensors in the roadway.

The metering system is scheduled to operate seven days a week, from 5 a.m. to 8 p.m. on weekdays and from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. on weekends. Adjustments to the signal timing may be made in the future to fine tune the metering system operation.

Under state law, running a red light on a ramp meter is a traffic violation, the same as running any other red light. Drivers can be cited and fined, with points against their driving record.

###